



MISSION

The mission of the Indiana Driver Education Association is to assist driver education teachers in offering the highest quality driver education training to the citizens of Indiana that is affordable and readily available.

News and Information from the Indiana Driver Education Association

August 2010

Annual Conference

INDEA held its annual conference at Ben Davis High School in Indianapolis on Friday, April 30th with 80 people in attendance. This motivated group of Driver Education providers actively participated with Ms. Carol Hardin, past president of the American Driver and Traffic Safety Association (ADTSEA), in reviewing and developing potential curriculum content to be covered in our "new" Driver Education program. As a follow-up, Carol sent a summative document to all the participants outlining all the ideas collected from the activity. The INDEA board will continue to work on guiding improvement in Driver Education in our state. Carol also provided a session on Interactive Classroom Activities and gave great ideas for enhancing any classroom.

John Bodeker, Michael LaRocco, and Melissa Daniels gave a brief update on their respective agencies' activities and conducted a session on ways to improve communication between the agencies and providers. They listened to concerns expressed by the members and indicated a willingness to review and make recommendations to the appropriate source. Door prizes were provided by the exhibitors and INDEA for our hard working members.

Upcoming Board Meeting - The INDEA Board will meet at the AAA office on Aug. 12 at 10 a.m. If you have any concerns or ideas to share with the board on how we can better serve the membership, please forward them to Stan Henderson at slh_7@juno.com.

Mark Your Calendar for the 2011 Conference

Friday, April 29th

Ben Davis High School – Indianapolis

Send any suggestions you may have for a speaker to
CWoodard@wawasee.k12.in.us

The Legislative Summer Study Committee to Improve Driver Education in Indiana

will be meeting August 19th at 9:00 a.m. at the State House in room 233. All are welcome to attend and show their support. If you are unable to attend but would like to listen, go to <http://media.ihets.org/senate233>

Text Messaging Mini-Module Available for Classroom Teaching

In an effort to provide instructors with updated and interactive content, AAA has developed a new mini-module to complement any driver training program.

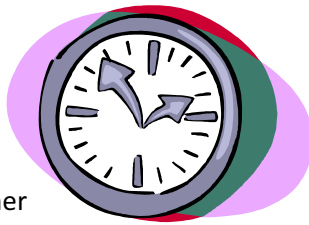
The mini-module "Text Messaging and Driving Safety: When is it the Wrong Message?" was developed by AAA and driver training instructors from around the country in response to growing concern about the risks of text messaging while driving.



Designed to be delivered as a "stand alone" to complement existing classroom delivery programs, this mini-module will provide information and open discussions on the risks involved in text messaging while driving. To receive a copy of this module, please contact Sherry Deane at AAA Hoosier Motor Club at sdeane@aaahoosier.com.

What Is the Definition of a Clock Hour?

It appears there has been much debate over what constitutes a “clock hour” as it pertains to Driver Education. There have been questions raised as to whether or not it is a full 60 minutes or if it follows the definition set by some public schools as 50 minutes being a “classroom hour.”



511 IAC 6-6-5 (State Board of Education Administrative Rules) states: (A) No student shall receive less than thirty (30) **clock hours** of classroom instruction. (B) No student shall receive less than six (6) **clock hours** of behind the wheel instruction. 205 IAC 3-1-14 (j) (Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Administrative Rules) states: The course of instruction.....in at least the minimal amounts of thirty (30) **clock hours** of classroom instruction and six (6) **clock hours** of behind the wheel training. The requirements are identical.

A “clock hour” is 60 minutes. The language in the administrative code specifically calls for clock hours to self define what it means. An “hour” is open to interpretation, but a “clock hour” is 60 minutes. Therefore, students must receive a minimum of 1,800 minutes of classroom instruction to meet the minimum required instructional time. If a school defines a classroom hour as 50 minutes, that’s fine, but they will need to meet for 36 classroom hours of 50 minutes each to meet the legally required minimum amount of instructional time. The same applies to BTW training. Any school found not complying with this rule puts the teen’s permit at risk of being rescinded by the BMV.

Check Out This Great Resource!!!

The USAA Educational Foundation
www.usaaedfoundation.org

This web site contains a huge amount of extremely useful information for your field as well as for educating parents.

Be sure to click on “Vehicle” and then “Vehicle Safety” and then “Keeping Every Youth Safe.” There are several publications found here and other areas of the web site and they are COMPLETELY FREE!!! So, take advantage!!!!

Legislative Reminder Pertaining to Changes for Indiana Teen Drivers

Effective July 1, 2010 – permit age increased to 15 years and 180 days if the teen is taking Driver Education, and requires the teen to be at least this same age to begin their Driver Ed class. Permit age remains at 16 without Driver Ed. Permit must now be held for 180 days.

Any new driver, regardless of age, must complete at least 50 hours of supervised practice driving with a licensed instructor or a licensed driver who is at least 25 years old, or a spouse who is at least 21 years old. At least 10 of those hours must be nighttime driving. Anyone needing a copy of a log can contact Sherry Deane at sdeane@aaahoosier.com.

Licensing age increased to 16 and 180 days with Driver Ed; and 16 and 270 days without Driver Ed.

Effective July 1, 2009 for Probationary Drivers: No passengers for the first 180 days of driving, unless accompanied by a licensed instructor or licensed driver 25 years or older. *Exemptions - a sibling and/or child of the driver OR a spouse and/or child of the driver, an unlicensed parent, guardian or stepparent who is at least 21 years of age and in the front seat.*

Nighttime driving prohibited from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. for the first 180 days, then during curfew hours until age 18. *Exemptions - work, school or church related functions, or if accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 25 years of age and in the front seat.*

Persons under the age of 18 are prohibited from using any type of telecommunication device while operating a vehicle except for making emergency 911 calls.

For Those Schools Offering Online Driver Ed

Teens taking an online Driver Ed course must also meet the age requirement of 15 years and 180 days to enroll in the course. I Drive Safely.com, Welcome Driver.com, and Driversed.com have all confirmed that they have instituted “blocks” into their enrollment process that will stop any student who is less than 15 and 180 days from enrolling.

This is something you may want to add to your web site or pass along to students wishing to take an online course.

Potential Problem for Students Not Getting Their Permit Prior to July 1, 2010

Students **currently enrolled** in/attending a Driver Ed program (online or traditional class) who were not 15 years and 180 days old by July 1, 2010, and did not get their permit by the close of business on June 30, will be able to complete the course which will be recognized by the BMV, **BUT** they will not be able to obtain a permit until they are 15 and 180 days.

Work to Increase Parental Involvement

Help Parents Help their Teen Driver

It is highly recommended that driver education instructors include parents in the learning process as their child prepares to take to the wheel. Before



beginning the first class, invite parents to attend the first 30 minutes of the classroom phase and use this time to help prepare the parents for what is about to occur in their and their child's life. Invite them back for the final 30 minutes of the classroom phase to "wrap-up" and to discuss the importance of their involvement concerning practice driving, setting clear rules for their child, parent/teen driving agreements, and to cover the current GDL law as well as what is recommended beyond our law.

To increase parental involvement, it's important that parents be aware of the basics and why they are important to a new driver. Here are six helpful key points:

Basic Vehicle Control Understanding: Parents need to know how to effectively communicate to their teen about the vehicle features, adjusting seats and mirrors and how to start the vehicle.

Develop Basic Understanding of Vehicle Dynamics: It is important that parents know what it means to

be their teen's driving coach while driving and how they should communicate what their teens may expect to experience. This includes training parents on how to teach their teens the basic steps for moving, turning, stopping and securing the vehicle.

Practicing Basic Traffic Maneuvers: Graduated driver licensing (GDL) is intended to help reduce teen risk. Parents should be educated on GDL and the importance of slowly introducing their teens to different levels of traffic. During supervised driving, parents should provide tips and feedback on the use of signal, speed, brakes, following distance and mirrors.

Staying Alert: Stress the importance of parents educating their teen on highway conditions, identifying traffic control devices, and visually searching for potential hazards caused by both vehicles and pedestrians. Introduce them to "commentary" driving.

Timing Traffic Moves: Positioning and timing at intersections requires skill. Encourage parents to be aware of their driving and communicate their actions to their teens. Provide parents with tips on how to safely enter, cross and leave a roadway at multiple-lane intersections and how to communicate their actions to their teen.

Preparing for High Risk Conditions: Prepare parents to work through complex driving situations with their teens. Such things include providing tips on how to enter, drive through and exit freeways at interchanges. Provide parents with the tools to communicate with their teens on the importance of gap selection, timing and speed adjustments.

Keeping the lines of communication open between the parent and teen, and setting clear rules and consequences, is critical in helping reduce teen crashes.

Offer the following Parent Teen Driving Contract to your students' parents as a tool to help with this process.

Parent-Teen Driving Contract

Motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of serious injury and death to American teens. Every year, nearly 6,000 U.S. teenagers are killed in car crashes and about 300,000 are injured. Talking to your teen about safe driving and the rules of the road is not easy; however, it is extremely important. Use this Parent-Teen Driving Contract to help you get started. Once you discuss each issue and come to an agreement about the rules, sign and date the contract. Keep the contract in a central place in your home, like the front of your refrigerator, and change it as your teen becomes a more experienced driver. This proven method will help reduce the chance of your child being involved in a serious motor vehicle crash. Please note, the night driving and passenger restrictions recommended below exceed the minimum requirements under Indiana law but reflect best practice.

Speeding	Knowing that speed-related crashes account for 44% of fatalities among 15-20 year olds, I agree to obey the posted speed limit. If I violate this rule, I understand that I will lose my driving privileges for _____ (time period) and/or other penalty: _____.
Night Driving	Knowing that the risk of a fatal crash is about three times higher for teens driving at night than during the day, I will not drive from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. for the first 6 months after getting a license; and after that, for the next 6 months, I will not drive between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. If I violate this rule, I understand that I will lose my driving privileges for _____ (time period) and/or other penalty: _____.
Drinking and Driving	Knowing that alcohol is involved in one of every four fatal teen crashes, I agree to never drink and drive or ride in the car of someone who has been drinking. If I violate these rules I understand that I will lose my driving privileges for _____ (time period) and/or other penalty: _____.
Seat Belts	Knowing that using lap and shoulder belts can reduce the risk of dying in a car crash by nearly 50%, I agree to wear my seat belt at all times and I will make sure all my passengers wear their seatbelts. If I violate these rules I understand that I will lose my driving privileges for _____ (time period) and/or other penalty: _____.
Cell Phones and Other Distractions	Knowing that talking on a cell phone while driving gives me the reaction time of a 70-year-old, I will not use a cell phone while driving, I will not send or read text messages, I will not play loud music or otherwise be distracted by the radio, CD or iPod, and I will not eat or drink while driving. If I violate these rules I understand that I will lose my driving privileges for _____ (time period) and/or other penalty: _____.
Passengers	Knowing that passengers are one of the biggest contributors to teen crashes, and that the presence of just one teen passenger doubles the chance of a fatal crash, I agree to only drive with a parent/guardian, or other adult as allowed by my parent, during the first 6 months of having my license. For the next 6 months of my first year of driving, I will not drive with more than one teen passenger. If I violate these rules I understand that I will lose my driving privileges for _____ (time period) and/or other penalty: _____.

Teen	I promise to abide by the rules outlined above. If I break any part of this contract, I will accept the consequences.	
	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Parent, or Guardian	I promise to be a positive role model by demonstrating safe driving and to emphasize the importance of safe driving. I promise to provide you with 50 hours of supervised driving to help you become a more experienced and safer driver. I promise to provide transportation home for you when you cannot get a safe ride. I promise to enforce this contract with consistency, fairness and firmness.	
	Signature: _____	Date: _____